

09/230001

300 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 JAN 1999

MULLE20.001APC

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

# SA

1744 72099

Applicant : De Heus, et.al. ) Group Art Unit ~~Unknown~~

Int'l )

Appl. No. : PCT/NL97/00404 )

Int'l )

Filing date : July 12, 1996 )

For : STERILISATION )

APPARATUS )

Examiner : ~~Unknown~~ Thornton )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S.

National Phase application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Prior to the first line of the specification on page 1, please insert --This application is the  
U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. Section 371 of International Application PCT/NL97/00404,  
filed July 12, 1996.--.

On page 1 at line 28, please delete "siad" and substitute in its place --said--.

On page 6 at line 1, please delete the word "CLAIMS" and substitute in its place --

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. A [S]terilisation apparatus for medical instruments and the like [objects] which  
is easy to handle and/or remove, said apparatus comprising [and which is mainly formed by] a  
casing provided with a double-walled sterilisation boiler [and means for performing the